



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

November 5, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of **November 5, 2024** at 6:30 p.m. at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 West Main Street, New Albany, Ohio. Staff attending were City Manager Joseph Stefanov, Law Director Benjamin Albrecht, Finance Director Bethany Staats, Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly, Police Chief Greg Jones, Deputy Finance Director Morgan Joeright, Management Analyst Ethan Barnhardt, Planning Manager Steve Mayer, Public Service Director Mike Barker, Deputy Public Service Director Ryan Ohly, Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler, Chief Marketing Officer Josh Poland, Management Analyst Ethan Barnhardt, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason.

ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

Mayor Sloan Spalding	P
CM Marlene Brisk	P
CM Michael Durik	P
CM Chip Fellows	P
CM Kasey Kist	P
CM Matt Shull	P
CM Andrea Wiltout	P

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Council adopted the October 15, 2024 meeting minutes by consensus.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

NONE

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Elizabeth Murch, 7453 Ratchford Court, Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board (CRAB) member read the attached letter from the board that requested black metal fencing and brick columns at Wagner (also known as Wagner) Cemetery. She stated brick columns could be at the west and east ends of the cemetery facing Central College Road and on each side of the entrance. Maplewood Cemetery had this type of fence and it would provide continuity between the cemeteries. Wagner Cemetery had white rail fencing that the board did not feel was appropriate for a historical cemetery. The proposed metal fencing would foster a sense of respect for the pioneers buried in the cemetery. The CRAB was mindful of the economics of this project and offered for just the front of cemetery be updated.

Council Member Fellows asked and Ms. Murch answered that CRAB was not involved in the decision to use white rail fencing last year. Mayor Spalding understood that horse fence was a stop-gap, economic solution to replace the deteriorating metal fence. Council Member Fellows stated the white fencing looked better than what had been there.

Council Member Kist supported the idea of updating the frontage on Central College Road to distinguish the cemetery. He suggested getting estimates of fully enclosing or just the front and then decide.

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Ms. Murch replied the CRAB wanted to feedback before getting estimates. She pointed out a CRAB member had seen wrought iron fencing outside the high school's natatorium and questioned if it was available to use for the project. She also asked if the city may have some unused brick to help reduce costs.

Clerk Mason passed out a \$38,000 iron fence quote that City Manager Stefanov had obtained in 2020. The quote didn't include brick pillars.

Ms. Murch stated the board was flexible, but wanted to show the appropriate level of respect for who was buried there. Wagnor Cemetery was still being restored and phase 2 was coming in 2025. The board was also working on proper lighting for the American flag. She noted they were working with the public service department on the light. Council Member Brisk suggested pricing the whole project out with the lighting so council would know the entire scope of the project.

Mayor Spalding agreed with Council Member Wilttrout's suggestion to get a quote for the proposed structures and fencing along Central College Road, and to include the flag pole lighting.

Ms. Murch thanked Keri O'Donnell, the historian and registrar of the Franklinton chapter of Daughters of the Revolution, for donating her expertise and time to identify the patriots in the city's cemeteries. She and Ms. O'Donnell would be participating in Wreaths Across America and placing wreaths for veterans at the historic cemeteries with CRAB members. She also thanked Clerk Mason for her support of the board.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC): Council Member Wilttrout reported the PC approved an application to extend an existing T Mobile cellphone tower 34 feet. The PC denied an application by an Ebrington homeowner who wanted to expand their existing detached garage 995 feet to accommodate an additional parking space and pool house. The board stated the *Duncan* factors weren't satisfied and there was an alternative solution to the variance. The PC heard an informal rezoning review of the New Albany Country Club (NACC) Section 30 project. The area was zoned and platted 2 years ago for 36 single-family homes that featured 3 different lot types. Before building commenced, the New Albany Company (NACO) had requested to rezone from 36 to 40 homes, move the placement of bigger lots to the middle and edge of the area, divide the neighborhood into 2 sub areas, add an additional stormwater pond, include additional leisure trails and maintain the current leisure trails, and move the current road.

Mayor Spalding asked if the area would need to be platted again and, if so, would it be going back to square one. Council Member Durik observed that the lots had been there for 3 years and none had been sold. He recalled the initial effort to approve the zoning and the disruption while they realigned the golf course fairways. Now, NACO wanted to redo the roads and infrastructure, he wanted to know why.

Tom Rubey, Director of Planning, NACO, responded that the property was originally zoned for 88 single-family homes. A few years ago, they had it rezoned to 36 or 37. They built the subdivision and infrastructure, but never released the lots. NACO had been focused on other non-residential community projects, mostly in the business campus and a few other community projects. During that time, NACO reevaluated the lot scheme of the entire neighborhood. The proposal was just starting the public review process that would increase the number of lots to 40. They had been in front of the PC and PTAB informally.

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The new proposal was an improvement to the neighborhood, with better public infrastructure and an increase in size, scale, and quality of the project.

Council Member Shull asked if the homes to be built were similar in size and square footage or would be more varied in size. Mr. Rubey replied all lots would have a minimum of 100 feet of frontage, similar to the Lambton subdivision, except for the estate lots and the homes in the southeast corner - since those homes would be a new product type that allowed attached homes, a home type not available in the original plan. Rezoning and re-platting were needed to change the ponds and reorient the lots.

Council Member Kist asked and Mr. Rubey answered that no section of the neighborhood would be gated. All roads would be publicly dedicated. He noted the “fake” gates at Lambton and Head of Pond were put in at the request of the neighbors to the south to make sure it wasn’t treated as a cut-through and to reduce traffic.

Council Member Brisk asked and Mr. Rubey confirmed all of the homes would be part of the New Albany Country Club Homeowners Association. The 100-foot frontage lots would be traditional country club community lots, the other 2 were were more like Highgrove Farms.

Council Member Shull recalled, a few years ago, when this area was initially zoned and platted, there were concerns from some homeowners whose homes would be facing the back of the new estate homes. Were there any solutions to address these concerns? Mr. Rubey responded there was still fencing. Based on community feedback, they were moving the existing American elms to the back of the lots as the first part of the buffer between the golf course and back of the homes. They were going to continue to look for improvements and solving the residents’ concerns remained a paramount focus.

Mayor Spalding asked and Mr. Rubey replied the proposed the name for the new neighborhood was Blenheim, which was the name of one of Winston Churchill’s childhood homes.

Manager Mayer stated the next PC meeting for this project was November 18, 2024.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: Council Member Fellows reported the board heard a preliminary review of the rezoning proposal of the Blenheim neighborhood and would get an update from Mr. Rubey at the formal hearing.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA): Council Member Wiltout reported the BZA approved a variance for a larger Pharmavite sign and a variance for the sign relief to be 1/2 inch. The board noted there were other large-scale signs in the business park and a smaller sign would seem out of scale for the building. The applicant requested ½ inch sign relief, versus the code requirement of 1 inch, due to not being able to procure the desired materials. Some BZA members thought the reason for the variance was insufficient, but passed it anyway. The board discussed proposed city code sign regulation changes which would allow 1 sign per building entrance with a maximum size of up to 1% of building’s façade. Lastly, the board reviewed the new meeting attendance city code.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

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IDEA IMPLEMENTATION PANEL: Council Member Wiltrout congratulated the team on a fantastic Diwali festival. She thanked the community event staff, the additional city staff who worked the event, and the sponsors. Preliminary attendance was estimated at 2,000 people. The panel would be meeting in a few weeks to start planning for 2025's event.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: Clerk Mason reported on the topics that were discussed during the last board meeting. New member Jeffrey Gastineau was sworn in. Keri O'Donnell, the historian and registrar of the Franklinton chapter of Daughters of the Revolution, reported she found 1 more Revolutionary War veteran in Wagner Cemetery and was confirming a second. The board recommended new lighting for the U.S. flag in Wagner Cemetery as the current solar-powered light wasn't strong. Public Services Manager Angie Hobart would look into lighting options. Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly presented the plans for Rose Run 2, Veterans Memorial, and Founders Field, which included the New Albany Cemetery. The board wanted to keep the space contemplative and inquired about the surrounding features of the cemetery and area. Directory Joly welcomed feedback and asked for the board's input on the cemetery's signage. The board discussed Wagner Cemetery fencing as presented by Member Murch at this council meeting. The board discussed the New Albany Vietnam Veterans Memorial and fundraiser which was accepting donations. The memorial would recognize the 50-year anniversary of the war and be dedicated in November 2025. Thanks to CRAB Member Stoughton, the city's 2 historic cemeteries were listed on the Wreaths Across America website and would have their own wreath-placing ceremonies this year. Wreaths for those veterans were purchased from Mayor Spalding's discretionary account, however a few more wreaths could be needed as more veterans were identified.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

Mayor Spalding received an email from a resident of Nottingham Trace with concerns regarding the proposed school bus garage and fire substation that would be close to that neighborhood. The levy hadn't been approved yet and lots of planning still needed to happen. Mayor Spalding stated the city would keep the comments available for staff as the process commenced and asked to keep the Nottingham Trace Home Owners Association in the loop.

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-39-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED FOR THE PARCEL KNOWN AS 222-000066-00 (97 E. MAIN STREET) FROM THE NEW ALBANY COMPANY LLC.

Director Joly stated this ordinance was related to Market Street extension project. To facilitate the project, the driveway for the New Albany United Methodist Church and Northwest Eye Surgeons needed to be relocated. The city was working with The New Albany Company to dedicate a portion of a parcel they owned for the driveway relocation which would allow for adequate access to both buildings.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

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Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-39-2024.

ORDINANCE O-40-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED FOR THE PARCEL KNOWN AS 222-004343-00, 222-000070-00, and 222-000092-00 (21 E. GRANVILLE STREET) FROM THE NEW ALBANY COMPANY LLC.

Director Joly stated, similar to last ordinance, this ordinance would accept 3 parcels from The New Albany Company. The parcels contained the Mill Warehouse building and city’s former police department building. By accepting these parcels, the city would be able to continue planning the Rose Run 2 and Veterans Memorial project, expand that project by about 2 acres, and build a better park for the city.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Wiltout moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-40-2024.

ORDINANCE O-41-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE LIMITED WARRANTY DEED FOR THE PARCEL KNOWN AS 222-000039-00, 222-000254-00, and 222-000021-00 (49 E. DUBLIN GRANVILLE ROAD) FROM THE NEW ALBANY COMPANY LLC.

Director Joly stated that these 3 parcels would put the remainder of this civic block under city ownership. These parcels contained the former Duke and Duchess gas station.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Kist moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Ordinance O-41-2024.

Mayor Spalding thanked The New Albany Company for these land dedications which would allow the city to make a more meaningful park and create a green corridor through the city.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-42-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO RENEW THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR 9 SINGLE FAMILY LOTS ON 8.82+/- ACRES AND ACCEPT RESERVES “A”, “B”, “C” FOR THE ALDEN WOODS SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT 6700, 6770, 6800 CENTRAL COLLEGE ROAD AS REQUESTED BY ANDREW MALETZ.

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Planning Manager Steve Mayer stated council first reviewed and approved the plat for this subdivision in May 2023. City code stated that if the plat was not recorded within 12 months of approval, it became null and void. The plat was never recorded, therefore, the applicant was requesting that council renew and re-approve the plats. There were minor changes to the utility easements, otherwise there were no substantive changes to the plat. This was still a 9 single-family home subdivision on 8.83 acres. The plat also dedicated 3 parklands totaling ~2.5 acres. There was a road stub to provide a future connection to the west. All parkland would be owned by the city, but maintained by homeowners association in perpetuity.

Council Member Fellows stated that the developer/owner was not taking great care of the property. There was a lot of high grass. Manager Mayer responded that the city had been communicating with the developer over the past 3-4 weeks and had just issued permits to demolish structures the day prior. Council Member Fellows stated they hadn't cut the grass and there were piles of dirt. Council Member Brisk had heard the same, that it was an eyesore. Council Member Fellows stated they needed to take care of it.

Council Member Shull noted only change to the plat was to drainage easement going into Lot 9. He asked if that would be a potential issue for that lot when they built on it. Was there a way to not have that go into lot 9? Manager Mayer suspected it would not be an issue. The developer's engineers designed the easement, so they should be aware of the constraint on the lot. Typically, it was the obligation of the architect to design around the existing, known conditions.

Council Member Durik observed that it had been over a year and the developer had not significantly moved forward. Did staff have any sense of the developer's intention and ability to move forward in a reasonable timeline? Manager Mayer replied that he didn't know the timing, but could include that information at second reading. Council Member Durik stated he had no issue with the plat changes, just the developer's intent.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the November 19, 2024 council meeting.

ORDINANCE O-43-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE THE IMPROVEMENT TO CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE, EXEMPT 100% OF THAT IMPROVEMENT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION, REQUIRE THE OWNERS OF THOSE PARCELS TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES, PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE APPLICABLE PORTION OF THOSE SERVICE PAYMENTS TO THE NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE EASTLAND-FAIRFIELD CAREER CENTER, PROVIDE FOR THE DEPOSIT OF THE REMAINDER OF THOSE SERVICE PAYMENTS INTO A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND, SPECIFY THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS THAT DIRECTLY BENEFIT THOSE PARCELS, AND APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF ONE OR MORE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AGREEMENTS.

Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler stated this ordinance created a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District for the commercially designated 32.6 +/- acres of the Hamlet at Sugar Run and authorized the city manager to enter into associated agreements related to the TIF District. The TIF was classified as "non-school" which did not negatively impact the New Albany Plain Local School District and Eastland-Fairfield Career Centers. The TIF legislation included an additional provision to reimburse Plain Township

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for the fire department portion of the property tax captured by the TIF, commonly referenced as “non-fire.” This “non-fire” language was inadvertently missing from the first publication of the legislation, but had since been added. As discussed with the council at the capital projects meeting in September, the developer would be reimbursed for public improvements that were upgrades and enhancements from the approved final development plan and code requirements. If the TIF did not generate the amount of revenue necessary to cover the full cost of the enhancements, the developer would be required to pay the balance. Examples of the enhancements included upgrades to the landscaping, street lighting, civic green, and the Sugar Run stream restoration.

Council Member Kist asked and Manager Zeigler replied that this TIF covered the entire acreage of the project. This was the commercial TIF. The residential TIF would be covered in Ordinance O-44-2024.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the November 19, 2024 council meeting.

ORDINANCE O-44-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE TWO HAMLET TAX INCREMENT FINANCING INCENTIVE DISTRICTS; DECLARE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARCELS WITHIN EACH INCENTIVE DISTRICT TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; REQUIRE THE OWNERS OF THOSE PARCELS TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE APPLICABLE PORTION OF THOSE SERVICE PAYMENTS TO THE NEW ALBANY PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE EASTLAND-FAIRFIELD CAREER CENTER AND FRANKLIN COUNTY; ESTABLISH A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND AND ACCOUNTS THEREIN FOR THE DEPOSIT OF THE REMAINDER OF THE SERVICE PAYMENTS; SPECIFY THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS THAT DIRECTLY BENEFIT OR SERVE PARCELS IN THE INCENTIVE DISTRICTS; AND TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AGREEMENT.

Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler stated this ordinance created 2 Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts, the Hamlet Incentive District #1 and Hamlet Incentive District #2, for the area designated as residential in the Hamlet at Sugar Run. This was an incentive district TIF, commonly known as a “residential TIF.” The Ohio Revised Code required the approval of a development plan and with a list of associated infrastructure impacts. The development plan restated the development principles as outlined in the city’s strategic plan. It further included a final development plan and listed the associated impacts of the additional development. The development plan was approved by the city’s Architectural Review Board and Planning Commission in September of 2024. The TIF was classified as “non-school” which would not negatively impact the New Albany Plain Local School District and Eastland-Fairfield Career Centers. The TIF legislation included an additional provision to reimburse Plain Township for the fire department portion of the property tax captured by the TIF, commonly referenced as “non-fire.” This language was inadvertently missing from the originally published legislation, but was now included. As discussed with council at the capital projects meeting in September, the developer would be reimbursed for public improvements that were upgrades and enhancements from the approved final development plan and code requirements. If the TIF did not generate the amount of revenue necessary to cover the full cost of the

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enhancements, the developer would be required to pay the balance. Examples of the enhancements included upgrades to the landscaping, street lighting, civic green, and the Sugar Run stream restoration.

Mayor Spalding and Manager Zeigler discussed the area covered by the 2 incentive districts.

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the November 19, 2024 council meeting.

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION R-47-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH COI NEW ALBANY 525, LLC

Economic Development Manager Sara Zeigler requested to table the resolution until the December 3, 2024 council meeting.

Mayor Spalding moved to table the resolution to the December 3, 2024 council meeting. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to table Resolution R-47-2024 to the December 3, 2024 council meeting.

RESOLUTION R-49-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A 2025 HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO AND THE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH.

City Manager Stefanov stated that Franklin County Public Health had provided the city's plumbing and health inspections for decades. Council increased the city manager's authorization to enter into contracts up to \$100,000 several years ago. The contract had been under \$100,000, which made it unnecessary to bring the legislation before council. The proposed contract for 2025 was \$113,968.80, based on the per capita rate. The contract term was 1 year, from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

Council Member Fellows asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that the city did not have to use Franklin County's services. Worthington and the City of Columbus both had their own health departments or contracted with their own public health providers. The city explored using Licking County's department several years ago and determined that Franklin County's services were less expensive and Franklin County already possessed institutional knowledge of the New Albany. Jennifer Chrysler, Development Director, was consulted regarding her satisfaction with Franklin County's services, and she stated that they provided a high level of service.

Council Member Fellows questioned if any private entities offered the same services and City Manager Stefanov replied he did not know of any. Council Member Fellows asked if it was mandatory to use a public entity. City Manager Stefanov replied that he would research that.

Mayor Spalding stated that Franklin County had been very attentive to the needs of the city.

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Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Resolution R-49-2024.

RESOLUTION R-50-2024

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF THE SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY MAP AS SET FORTH ON EXHIBIT A TO THE WATER SERVICE AND SEWER DISPOSAL CONTRACTS WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS.

City Manager Stefanov stated the City of New Albany contracted the City of Columbus to provide water and sewer utilities to New Albany residents and businesses in a defined area, with the northern boundary being the south side of Walnut Street with a couple of exceptions, including the New Albany's Public Service Complex. In 2023, New Albany purchased 73 acres of ground to expand the Metro Parks or the Joint Park District for the construction of the fieldhouse. New Albany had worked with Columbus for a year to determine if water and sewer agreements could be modified to allow New Albany to provide utilities to the 73-acre expansion. Columbus did not have infrastructure in the area and building the infrastructure would require time and a significant financial investment. New Albany had utilities across the street from the fieldhouse site, including an 8-inch water line on the east side of Bevelhymer Road and adjacent to the fieldhouse site, and a 12-inch water line on the south side of Walnut Street, with the ability to serve the fieldhouse site. New Albany's sanitary sewer was located across the street in the Upper Clarenton subdivision. Columbus agreed to amend the water and service agreements to allow New Albany to annex the 73-acres into the city and provide utility services.

City Manager Stefanov stated that the Morse Road corridor was currently in Columbus and that New Albany's boundary ended in the area of James River Road. There were conversations with Franklin County to improve Morse Road. Columbus agreed to move its jurisdictional boundaries to the west side of US 62. Franklin County, Gahanna, and New Albany would participate in the Morse Road improvement project.

City Manager Stefanov stated the Columbus and New Albany had agreed that an unincorporated parcel of land west of US 62 and to the north side of Morse Road, located in Plain Township, could be annexed in the future to New Albany, if the owner would choose that option. Columbus agreed to allow the annexation of a property near Green Chapel Road and US 62 into New Albany.

Mayor Spalding thanked City Manager Stefanov and city staff for working with Columbus to reset the boundaries. He noted that the fieldhouse land annexation was important for consistent police service and that the Morse Road corridor was a priority focus.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Shull moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Wiltrout seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to approve Resolution R-50-2024.

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COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

NONE

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: No meeting.
- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: Council Member Shull understood that the groundbreaking event for the New Albany Parks and Recreation Fieldhouse and Community Center was successful. Mayor Spalding replied that many of the council members attended and that construction would likely begin shortly.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany-Plain Local Schools: No meeting.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: Council Member Durik reported that the township had renewed their property and liability insurance programs, as well their health insurance, with a 5% increase in cost.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding thanked the council members who attended the SR 161 expansion ribbon cutting ceremony with the Ohio Department of Transportation and Governor DeWine. He commented on the achievement of going from the announcement of the expansion to the utilization of the roadway in 2 years. He had already heard positive feedback about decreased commuting times. Repaving and striping would begin next year, as asphalt plants typically closed during cold weather months. The sound walls would likely be installed in the spring of 2025. Council Member Fellows commented and Mayor Spalding agreed that the road lines were currently hard to see.

Mayor Spalding reported that the Central Ohio Mayor's and Manager's Association hosted a lunch with Governor DeWine. Legislative priorities were discussed, including home rule, municipal income tax, housing, and workforce development.

Mayor Spalding stated he attended the New Albany All Saints Episcopal Church dedication of their solar array and updated community garden. They hoped the solar array would to generate enough electricity to supply the church's daily use. The community garden, which had tripled in size, gave 12,000 pounds of produce to the New Albany Food Pantry last year. The church was expanding to Johnstown and planned to help the Johnstown food pantry. Mayor Spalding commended their effort in helping the New Albany community and surrounding communities.

Mayor Spalding stated that the Fry Out Cancer Thanksgiving turkeys were available to order and registration was open for the Thanks for Giving 4-Miler.

- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason reminded council about the annual budget meeting on November 12. Council Member Fellows would miss the budget meeting, so council group photos would be rescheduled to December 3 council meeting. Clerk Mason polled council about added a report for the finance department council liaison onto the regular agenda. Council Member Wiltrout stated she

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was fine giving her infrequent reports during Poll for Council Comment at the end of the agenda. Council members concurred.

- C. Finance Director: Finance Director Bethany Staats reported that the budget books were distributed to council members and they contained the appropriation ordinance as required by the charter. One section was still pending and would be in council’s mailboxes the next day.
- D. City Manager: No report.
- E. City Attorney: No report.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Spalding moved that council go into executive session pursuant to New Albany Charter Section 4.03(E) for economic development purposes. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to go into executive session at 7:40 pm.

Mayor Spalding moved that council come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with 7 yes votes to come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting. Council resumed the regular meeting at 7:52 pm.


OTHER BUSINESS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Kist seconded to adjourn the November 5, 2024 regular council meeting at 7:52 pm.

ATTEST:


Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council


Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor

19 NOV 24
Date

To: New Albany City Council
From: New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board

October 28, 2024

Re: Proposed Fencing for Wagner Cemetery on Central College Road

Dear City Council Members,

The members of the Cemetery Restoration Board request replacement of the white farm-horse fencing that is currently installed at the Wagner Cemetery. As a Board, we feel strongly that this type of fence is not appropriate for the Historical Cemetery located on Central College Road.

We suggest adding two brick columns at the west and east ends of the cemetery facing Central College Road, and two brick pillars on each side of the entrance. The suggested overall fencing appearance will be similar to that found at the Maplewood Cemetery and will lend needed continuity. The fence material between the columns and around the perimeter of the cemetery which we feel to be most appropriate and economical is a black aluminum/wrought iron appearance.

We feel that a more appropriate fence will promote respect for the deceased citizens buried there, historical pioneers who did much to establish New Albany. These are the veterans who are buried there:

- Revolutionary War: James H. Ginn and Ezekiel Goodrich
- War of 1812: Robert Campbell, Zimri D. Hills, Christian Horlocker
- Civil War: Alvin Bing Evans, Peter Bevelhymmer, Samuel Evans
- Other Notable Cemetery Residents: Rebecca Clark Frampton and triplet daughters, her Husband was Elijah Frampton a Methodist preacher who served in the War of 1812

Thank you for the consideration of our request.

Respectfully,

The Cemetery Restoration Board

Marie Fee, Chair

Ron Stoughton, Vice Chair

Thomas Shockey, Secretary

Jeffrey Gastineau

Diana Jacobs

Elizabeth Murch

Victor Wilson